Oliver

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

"AND THEY THAT BE WISE SHALL SHINE AS THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE FIRMAMENT AND THEY THAT TURN MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS AS THE STARS FOR EVER AND EVER."—*Daniel.*

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THE PERSECUTIONS IN MISSOURI.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 436.]

The following is the speech of Major-General Clark, delivered at Far West while its citizens were held as prisoners, November, 1838:—

"Gentlemen: You, whose names are not on this list, will now have the privilege of going to your fields to obtain grain for your families—wood, etc. Those that compose the list will go from thence to prison, to be tried, and receive the due demerits of their crimes. But you are now at liberty, all but such as charges may hereafter be preferred against. It now devolves upon you to fulfill the treaty that you have entered into—the leading items of which I now lay before you.

"The first of these items you have already complied with—which is, that you deliver up your leading men to be tried according to law. Second, that you deliver up your arms—this has been attended to. The third is, that you sign over your property to defray the expenses of the war; this you have also done. Another thing yet remains for you to comply with; that is: that you leave the State forthwith; and, whatever your feelings concerning this affair, whatever your innocence, it is nothing to me. General Lucas, who is equal in authority with me, has made this treaty with you. I am determined to see it executed.

"The orders of the Governor to me, were, that you should be exterminated, and not allowed to remain in the State. And had your leaders not been given up, and the treaty complied with before this, you and your families would have been destroyed and your houses laid in ashes.

"There is a discretionary power resting in my hands, which I shall try to exercise for a season. I did not say that you must go now, but you must not think of stopping here another season, or of putting in crops; for the moment you do the CITIZENS WILL BE UPON YOU. I am determined to see the Governor's orders fulfilled, but shall not come upon you immediately. Do not think that I shall act as I have done any more; but if I have to come again because the treaty which you have made is not complied with, you need not expect any mercy, but extermination; for I am determined that

the Governor's order shall be executed.

"As for your leaders, do not think, do not imagine for a moment, do not let it enter your minds that they will be delivered, or that you will see their faces again, for their fate is fixed, their die is cast, their doom is sealed.

"I am sorry, gentlemen, to see so great a number of apparently intelligent men found in the situation that you are. And, oh! that I could invoke the Spirit of the unknown God to rest upon you, and deliver you from that awful chain of superstition, and liberate you from those fetters of fanaticism with which you are bound. I would advise you to scatter abroad and never again organize with bishops, presidents, etc., lest you excite the jealousies of the people, and subject yourselves to the same calamities that have now come upon you.

"You have always been the aggressors; you have brought upon yourselves these difficulties by being disaffected, and not being subject to rule; and my advice is, that you become as other citizens, lest by a recurrence of these events you bring upon yourselves inevitable ruin."

I must not forget to state that when we arrived in Richmond as prisoners there were some fifty others, mostly heads of families, who had been marched from Caldwell on foot (distance 30 miles), and were now penned up in a cold, open, unfinished courthouse, in which situation they remained for some weeks, while their families were suffering severe privations.

The next morning after our dialogue with General Clark, he again entered our prison and informed us that he had concluded to deliver us over to the civil authorities for an examining trial. He was then asked why he did not do away with the unlawful decree of *banishment*, which was first ordered by General Lucas, in compliance with the Governor's order, and which compelled thousands of citizens to leave the State. Or upon what principle the military power aided the civil law against us, while at the same time it caused our families and friends to be murdered, plundered and driven, contrary to all law?

He replied that he approved of all the proceedings of General Lucas, and should not alter them. I make this statement because some writers have commended Clark for his heroic, merciful, and prudent conduct towards our society, and have endeavored to make it appear that Clark was not to be blamed for any of the measures of Lucas.

The Court of Inquiry now commenced, before Judge Austin A. King. This continued from the 11th to 28th of November, during which we were kept most of the time in chains, and our brethren, some fifty in number, were penned up in the cold, dreary court house. It was a very severe time of snow and winter weather, and we suffered much. During this time Elder Rigdon was taken very sick, from hardship and exposure, and finally lost his reason; but still he was kept in a miserable, noisy and cold room, and compelled to sleep on the floor with a chain and padlock round his ankle, and fastened to six others. Here he endured the constant noise and confusion of an unruly guard, the officer of which was Colonel Sterling Price, since Governor of the State.

These guards were composed generally of the most noisy, foul-mouthed, vulgar, disgraceful rabble that ever defiled the earth. While he lay in this situation, his son-in-law, George W. Robinson, the only male member of his family, was chained by his side. Thus Mrs. Rigdon and her daughters were left entirely destitute and unprotected. One of his daughters, Mrs. Robinson, a young and delicate female, with her little infant, came down to see her husband, and to comfort and take care of her father in his sickness. When she first entered the room, amid the clank of chains and the rattle of weapons, and cast her eyes on her sick and dejected parent and sorrow worn husband, she was speechless, and only gave vent to her feelings in a flood of tears. This faithful lady, with her little infant, continued by the side of her father till he recovered from his sickness, and till his fevered and disordered mind resumed its wonted powers.

In one of those tedious nights, we had lain as if in sleep till the hour of midnight had passed, and our ears and

hearts had been pained, while we had listened for hours to the obscene jests, the horrid oaths, the dreadful blasphemies and filthy language of our guards, Colonel Price at their head, as they recounted to each other their deeds of rapine, murder, robbery, etc., which they had committed among the "*Mormons*" while at Far West and vicinity. They even boasted of defiling by force, wives, daughters, and virgins, and of shooting or dashing out the brains of men, women, and children.

I had listened till I became so disgusted, shocked, horrified, and so filled with the spirit of indignant justice, that I could scarcely refrain from rising upon my feet and rebuking the guards; but had said nothing to Joseph, or any one else, although I lay next to him, and knew he was awake. On a sudden he arose to his feet, and spoke in a voice of thunder, or as the roaring lion, uttering, as near as I can recollect, the following words:

"*SILENCE, ye fiends of the infernal pit. In the name of Jesus Christ I rebuke you, and command you to be still; I will not live another minute and hear such language. Cease such talk, or you or I die THIS INSTANT!*"

He ceased to speak. He stood erect in terrible majesty. Chained, and without a weapon; calm, unruffled, and dignified as an angel, he looked upon the quailing guards, whose weapons were lowered or dropped to the ground; whose knees smote together, and who, shrinking into a corner, or crouching at his feet, begged his pardon, and remained quiet till a change of guards.

I have seen the ministers of justice, clothed in magisterial robes, and criminals arraigned before them, while life was suspended on a breath, in the Courts of England; I have witnessed a Congress in solemn session to give laws to nations; I have tried to conceive of kings, of royal courts, of thrones and crowns, and of emperors assembled to decide the fate of kingdoms; but dignity and majesty have I seen but *once*, as it stood in chains, at midnight, in a dungeon, in an obscure village of Missouri.

In this mock Court of Inquiry, the Judge could not be prevailed on to examine the conduct of the murderers and robbers who had desolated our society, nor would he receive testimony except against us. By the dissenters and apostates who wished to save their own lives and secure their property at the expense of others, and by those who had murdered and plundered us from time to time, he obtained abundance of testimony, much of which was entirely false. Our Church organization was converted by such testimony into a temporal kingdom, which was to fill the whole earth, and subdue all other kingdoms.

This Court of Inquisition inquired diligently into our belief of the seventh chapter of Daniel concerning the kingdom of God, which should subdue all other kingdoms and stand forever. And when told that we believed in that prophecy, the Court turned to the clerk and said: "*Write that down; it is a strong point for treason.*" Our lawyer observed as follows: "Judge, you had better make the Bible treason." The Court made no reply.

The Court also inquired diligently into our missionary operations. It was found, on investigation, that the Church had sent missionaries into England and other foreign countries. This, together with our belief in the Bible, was construed into treason against the State of Missouri, while every act of defence was set down as murder, etc. The Judge, in open court, while addressing a witness, proclaimed, that if the members of the Church remained on their lands to put in another crop, they should be destroyed indiscriminately, and their bones be left to bleach on the plains without a burial. Yes, reader, the cultivation of lands held by patents issued by the United States land office, and signed by the President of the Republic, was, by Judge Austin A. King, in open court, pronounced a capital offence, for which a whole community were prejudged and sentenced to death. While those who should be the instruments to execute this sentence, were called by the dignified name of citizens, and these *good* citizens afterwards elected that same Judge for Governor of the State.

The Judge inquired of the prisoners

if they wished to introduce any witnesses for the defence. A list of names was supplied by the prisoners, when, who should be selected to go to Far West to obtain and bring them before the Court, but the identical bandit, Bogart, and his gang, who were defeated by us in the battle of Crooked River, after they had become famous for kidnapping, plundering, and murdering!

Of course, every man in Caldwell would flee from such a gang if they could; but he succeeded in capturing a few of our friends, whose names were on the list, and bringing them before the Court, when, instead of being sworn, they were immediately ordered to prison to take their trial. Others were sent for, and, as far as found, shared the same fate. This manœuvre occupied several days, during which the Court was still in session, and the fate of the prisoners suspended.

At length the Judge exclaimed to the prisoners: "If you have any witness-s, bring them forward; the Court cannot delay forever—it has waited several days already." A member of the Church, named Allen, was just then seen to pass the window. The prisoners requested that he might be introduced and sworn. He was immediately called in and sworn. He began to give his testimony, which went to establish the innocence of the prisoners, and to show the murders, robberies, etc., committed by their accusers. But he was suddenly interrupted and cut short by cries of "*Put him out;*" "*Kick him out;*" "*G—d d—n him, shoot him;*" "*Kill him, d—n him, kill him;*" "*He's a d—d Mormon.*"

The Court then ordered the guard to put him out, which was done amid the yells, threats, insults, and violence of the mob who thronged in and around the court house. He barely escaped with his life. Mr. Doniphan, attorney for the defence, and since famed as a general in the Mexican war, finally advised the prisoners to offer no defence; "for," said he, "though a legion of angels from the opening heavens should declare your innocence, the Court and populace have decreed your destruction." Our attorney offered no defence, and thus the matter of our trials was finally submitted.

By the decision of this mock Court, some twenty or thirty of the accused were dismissed, among whom was Amasa Lyman. Some twenty others were suffered to be bailed out, and themselves and bail both forced to leave the State, thus forfeiting the bail bonds, while Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith, Sidney Rigdon, Lyman Wight, Caleb Baldwin, and Alexander McRae (all heads of families), were committed to the jail of Clay County on the charge of treason; and Morris Phelps, Lyman Gibbs, Darwin Chase, Norman Shearer, and myself, were committed to the jail of Richmond, Ray County, for the alleged crime of murder, said to be committed in the act of dispersing the bandit, Bogart, and his gang.

This done, the civil and military authorities dispersed, and the troubled waters became a little more tranquil.

As our people were compelled, by the memorable "*Treaty of Far West,*" to leave the State by the following spring, they now commenced moving by hundreds and by thousands to the State of Illinois, where they were received in the most humane and friendly manner by the authorities, and by the citizens in general. In the meantime bands of murderers, thieves, and robbers, were roaming unrestrained among the unarmed and defenceless citizens, committing all manner of plunder, and driving off cattle, sheep, and horses, abusing and insulting women.

My wife and children soon came to me in prison, and spent a portion of the winter in the cold, dark dungeon, where myself and fellow prisoners were frequently insulted and abused by our dastardly guards, who often threatened to shoot us on the spot, and who made murder, robbery, and whoredoms with negro slaves their daily boast.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

As malarious air may endanger a good constitution, so bad companions endanger a good character.

MANGLING THE SCRIPTURES.

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We find the following in an exchange :—

"The English New Testament revision committee have struck out, as spurious, the last seven verses of the last chapter of St. Mark. They have also struck out, as being a false interpolation, a verse in one of the epistles which is frequently quoted as proof of the existence of the Trinity."

Here are the verses which appear to have been obnoxious, for some reason, to this revision committee of "divines:"

14. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.

16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17. And these signs shall follow them that believe: In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

19. So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with the signs following. Amen.

We presume that those savans rejected the foregoing part of the Word of God, because it neither accorded with their belief nor practice; but why strike out this isolated passage, when they are infidel to nearly the whole of the "Good Book." In fact, if the Bible is to be so amended as to suit the prevalent religious ideas and practices of so-called Christendom, there will be but little left of the sacred record.

The 14th verse is the statement of the fact that Christ, after arising from the dead, three days after his crucifixion, showed himself unto some of his disciples, and if the committee reject that "as spurious," they also reject the many statements to the same effect appearing in other portions of the New Testament.

The 15th verse records a historical fact, to the effect that the Savior sent his disciples to preach, and if this be rejected "as spurious," then the same rejectors must, also, to be consistent, repudiate the many recorded facts that those disciples did go forth in accordance with that command.

The next, or 16th verse, is very repugnant to genuine infidels to the true Gospel, for they don't believe in the efficacy of such outward ordinances as baptism, the Scriptural mode of which is by immersion, and its administration by an authorized servant of the Lord.

But no wonder that this learned and accommodating committee on revision struck out the two next verses, for they show, beyond all possible doubt, that those "divines" and modern so-called Christians generally, have not the same kind of Gospel as that shown forth in this Scripture; for while they say that revelations, gifts, healings, etc., are done away, it asserts possitively that those are the inevitable effects following the believer in the true Gospel of Christ.

The next two verses mention the ascension of the Lord into heaven, and the fact of the disciples obeying the command given them, as recorded in the 15th verse, but of course these are rejected "as spurious."

The only apparently legitimate conclusion that can be arrived at in the premises is, that this revision committee, representing, at least, a large proportion of the religious element of Christendom, do not believe the New Testament, which is largely filled with statements corroborative of the seven rejected verses, all of which corroborative evidence, to make the thing complete, and give consistency its due, would have to be expunged also, as being "spurious," because of being in unison with, and in support of, the expunged "spurious" statements, and then, to be still further consistent, they might just as well reject, or strike out, "as spurious," the whole of the New Testament, which itself speaks of

people "wresting the Scriptures to their own damnation."

Unlike others professing to believe the Scriptures, the "Mormons" really do believe in them, and practise the doctrines set forth therein, and therefore the late Joseph Barker, of infidel notoriety, never uttered a more correct idea than when he said, "An intelligent Mormon Elder, with the Bible in his hand, could whip, in argument, all the clergymen of Christendom.—*Deseret News.*

WILD BEASTS AND THEIR PREY.

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To be devoured by a wild beast is to each of us an odious thought; but it does not follow that to be killed by a tiger or by a lion is peculiarly painful. On this topic Dr. Livingstone has given us his own valuable experience. A lion leaped on him, seized him by the shoulder, and tossed him in the air, as a dog tosses a rat. The tossing caused a delicious delirium, which precluded any sense of pain; had he then died, it would have been a merciful death, but we should not have known that so it was. However, his companions shot the lion, who thereupon dropped his intended victim, and took to flight. Dr. Livingstone's life was saved, and he endured much pain in the healing of his wounds, though he had none while in the lion's jaws. The skill with which all rapacious animals kill their quarry, has often been noted. Evidently this is no accident; it pervades nature. The tossing of a rat, or of a man in the air, might have seemed sportive caprice in the victorious beast, whom we cannot suppose to do it from any design; but when we learn that it causes the captive to swoon, and benumbs pain, we seem to read a Divine mercy beneath the animal instinct. Young lions are said to bungle in their first attempt to seize large game, and to need instruction from their parents; but to judge by young hounds, there would be no bungling if they did not assail game disproportioned to them. With great accuracy a young dog bites asunder the fatal artery of rabbit or leveret; and it is not without reason that we ascribe to all the carnivora an effective skill in killing, which man with much training rarely equals. "Yes," says one class of reasoners, "we admit that they kill cleverly, and with little suffering to their prey; but consider what misery, what terror the unhappy hare or deer or partridge endures while chased by its adversary." Is there not here an entire mistake? Tie up horses and bullocks in a stable, where they can hear outside a lion or tiger roar, and, no doubt they endure agonies of terror. Sweat runs down them, they shiver and are exhausted by their own emotion. But this is not their position in wild nature; they are brought into it only by the artifice of man. The wild cattle take to flight from the fierce beast, unless strong enough to turn and face him. In either case the exertion, or the preparation to fight, absorbs terror. While the sailor has something to do against the storm, activity subdues fear; but when nothing can be done, and he sits helpless, then it is that fear may unman him. According to Idomeneus in Homer, the greatest trial of man's bravery is, to sit in ambush with foemen near outside the thicket. When it is his duty to sit still and do nothing, then it is that "the coward's hue changes and his teeth chatter." Inaction being the state which brings terror to its maximum, we may justly doubt whether an animal which is straining all its nervous and muscular energy to escape, really suffers agony from fear. Fatigue may at length induce distress, with symptoms similar to those of fear, but violent exertion is part of the life of such creatures and does not impair their happiness. Rapacious animals must kill, day by day, in order to live; it is a part of the natural system by which the balance of species is maintained. But no inference, that the birds and beasts which are the objects

of prey, have unhappy lives, can at all be sustained. They evidently enjoy life, as do human communities, though exposed to many dangers and alarms. To say that life is precious is to avow that the good largely predominates.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

SCHOOLMASTERS AND THE TEACHING OF HISTORY.

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The following is a portion of an address delivered by the late Lord Brougham, on the Duty of Historians and Public Instructors in relation to War, on the occasion of his installation as Chancellor to the University of Edinburgh:—"Eloquence can only in these times be worthily employed in furthering objects little known to, and, if dimly perceived, little cared for, by the masters of the art in ancient days—the rights of the people, the improvement of their condition, their advancement in knowledge and refinement—above all, in maintaining the cause, the sacred cause, of peace at home and abroad. Suffer me to dwell somewhat upon the intimate connection of this last-mentioned important subject with the education of youth, the formation of their opinions, the cherishing of right feelings on the merits of those whose history it taught, or who are known as contemporaries, at least as having flourished in times near our own. Historians and political reasoners, the instructors of the people, have ill-discharged their duty in this most important respect, partaking largely in the illusions of the vulgar which they were bound to dispel; dazzled by the spectacle of great abilities, and still more of their successful exertion, they have held up to admiration the worst enemies of mankind, the usurpers who destroyed their liberties, the conquerors who shed their blood—men who, in the pursuit of power or of fame, made no account of the greatest sufferings they could inflict on their fellow-creatures. The worst cruelty, the vilest falsehood, has not prevented the teachers of the world from bestowing the name of 'great' upon those scourges, and to this must be ascribed by far the greater part of the encouragement held out to unprincipled, profligate conduct, in those who have the destinies of nations in their hands. It is not, however, by merely dwelling with disproportionate earnestness upon the bad qualities, and passing over the good ones of eminent men, and thus leaving a false general impression of them, that historians err and pervert the feelings and opinions of mankind. Even if they were to give a careful estimate of each character, and pronounce just judgment upon the whole, they would still leave by far the most important part of their duty unperformed, unless they also framed their narrative so as to excite an interest in the worthies of past times, to make us dwell with delight on the scenes of human improvement, to lessen the pleasure too naturally felt in contemplating successful courage or skill, whensoever these are directed to the injury of mankind; to call forth our scorn of perfidious designs, however successful, our detestation of cruel and bloodthirsty propensities, however powerful the talents by which their indulgence was secured. Instead of holding up to our admiration the 'pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war,' it is the historian's duty to make us regard with unceasing delight the ease, worth, and happiness of blessed peace.—*Peace Society's Papers.*

Albert Rhodes, in the *Galaxy*, says, "It is a safe and just rule of life to respect every man's religion, and give him credit for sincerity, on the same principle that in law every man is presumed to be honest until he is proved otherwise. The Arab who throws his mantle on the ground at the cry of the Moazzim, and kneeling towards Mecca, is as conscientious, and more devotional, than he who enters the cushioned pew of a well-warmed building."

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1876.

LITERAL FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY.

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THE evidence of the truth of revealed religion drawn from the fulfillment of prophecy, is rightly esteemed by many to be of very great weight. It being granted that our Father in heaven has a perfect knowledge of future events, and that he may reveal them to others, from time to time, the literal and exact fulfillment of such revelations, which have been plainly and categorically foretold centuries before their fulfillment, should be regarded as conclusive evidence of their divine origin. And this amount of evidence is constantly increasing, for every prophecy fulfilled is another proof of divine revelation. Many men affect to despise this evidence, but we think they do so ignorantly, as a rule, or else they content themselves with the vague supposition that the facts transpired before the prophecies were uttered. It is said of Porphyry, the great hater of Christianity, who lived upwards of 1500 years ago, that some prophecies of the Old Testament were so plain, and seemed to give him so much distress, that he gave it as his opinion that the book must have been written subsequently to their fulfillment. But this cannot be alleged of prophecies recorded in the Bible, to which Porphyry alluded, that have had their fulfillment centuries after his death.

To us it seems incredible that any person of ordinary intelligence, who does not "love darkness rather than light," should remain unconvinced of the inspiration of the Scriptures, after carefully reading the prophecies and the history of the world cotemporaneously. Dr. Beecher says in his work on "Political Atheism," "the instance is probably yet to be found of a sceptic who had soberly, and carefully, and candidly examined both sides; who had studied the history, and design, and evidence, and exposition of the Bible....:... I do not believe a well authenticated instance can be found of a sceptic who was a good biblical scholar, and who had studied the Bible and its evidences, and remained a sceptic." Certainly none can have reason to doubt the truth of prophecy, when they see numerous instances of things, beyond the power of human conjecture, foretold with the greatest clearness, and fulfilled centuries afterwards with the greatest exactness. Peculiarly of this character are several prophecies referred to in Nelson's excellent treatise, entitled, "Cause and Cure of Infidelity," from which we extract the following:—

"At present it is our plan to hold up to view only that part of these predictions which has come to pass *since* the Old Testament was translated into the Greek language.

Isaiah xiii, 20—22: 'It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation; neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there, and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there; and the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces," etc.

1. "Let it be noted (says Dr. Nelson) that it was very unlikely that this particular kind of desolation should happen to any city. We should never conjecture concerning London or Paris, should these cities come to ruin, that they would be deserted by man while lofty palaces or stately dwellings were there, inviting the houseless wanderer at least under their friendly shelter. Centuries rolled by after these threatenings were written. Babylon received another and another overthrow. Still these did not unpeople her streets. After a time, history informs us, Seleucia and Ctesiphon were built; the luxurious and sensual nobles of Babylon must follow their monarch and his court; they left their palaces, and their splendid abodes were deserted in a signal and unexampled manner. The servants and the dependants of these wealthy sons of revelry and authority, followed their lords to gaze at or participate in their feasting. Those who lived by selling their merchandise to the opulent followed, and the streets were in fact abandoned to unbroken silence.

2. Must it follow of course that the ferocious beasts of the island shall inhabit dwellings more splendid in some respects than any we have ever seen? By no means. This was not the natural result, for still enough of the indigent remained to rule the brute creation that have not reason for their guide. But continue to watch the progress of events. After a time a despotic potentate craves a more splendid hunting ground; he repairs the walls of the ancient city, and makes it the area of his chase. Their houses are then full of doleful creatures; owls dwell there, and dragons in their pleasant palaces.

3. But it was not to be expected that Babylon could continue always the hunting-ground of a king, and it did not. Babylon had stood on a fertile and extensive plain. Will not the shepherd drive his flock wherever vegetation springs to sustain them, if man's dominion does not forbid him? Assuredly he will, if God has not said *nay*. But when the towering edifices of brick had fallen in, the under cellars and vaults afforded such dens and lairs for tigers, wolves, lions, and hyenas, that travelers inform us it was too hazardous for the approach of a shepherd and his flock.

4. But the Arabians move in bands; they delight to wield the javelin; they tremble not at the lion's growl. The Arab will surely pitch his tent there, as he traverses all the deserts of the eastern continent. And he would have done so in defiance of the most ferocious of the forest tribes; but under the extended and unparalleled rubbish of that spot denounced of heaven, were concealed scorpions, serpents, and reptiles so numerous, and with fangs so envenomed and deadly, that no one could close his eyes in safety under the shelter of his friendly tent.

5. But time will obliterate these dens and hiding-places; these heaps will dissolve, and this rubbish will decay. Babylon was in the midst of a rich plain that could not be washed like the hills of Palestine into nudity and barrenness.

Will it not be repeopled? Who shall venture to say, 'It shall never be inhabited from generation to generation?' Answer, God. He has said so, and so it has been.

6. But the Bible goes on to say that it should be inhabited by the bittern, a water-fowl; nay, the book declares that it should become *pools of water*. When did this happen? Answer, in comparatively modern days. Some singularly spontaneous obstruction of the Euphrates caused its overflowing, and travelers tell us that two-thirds or more of Babylon is now 'pools of water for the bittern to cry in.'"

Our author now goes on to show that he has only glanced at a few of the items of history foretold concerning Babylon, merely noticing enough to illustrate the difference between a vague prediction and a prophecy whose particulars are minutely mentioned. Of the great city of Tyre he discourses as follows:

"If the reader will consult the Prophets of the Old Testament, he will find the overthrow of this city foretold, the manner of the siege, the name of the conqueror, the number of years before it should resume its former splendor, and its second fall. But these things we will not dwell upon: we attend to those particulars which belong to more modern times, or which took place as it were but yesterday.

1. When a city subsisting by commerce is overthrown, if the many streams of her lucrative trade shall cause a speedy elevation to more than ancient magnificence, the mind of calculating shrewdness might conjecture, that if spoiled again, the winds of traffic might blow wealth and power once more into her ports. The ships of Tyre floated over the seas, and her second growth almost resembled magic. The Lord said she should be destroyed and never built again. Two thousand years are past, but the riches and splendor of Tyre are no more.

2. The Lord ordered Ezekiel to say, 'I will *scrape* her *dust* from off her, and make her like the top of a rock.' (Ezek. xxvi, 4.) In the siege of Tyre by Alexander the Great—it having been rebuilt on an island half a mile from the shore, and surrounded by a wall one hundred and fifty feet in height—a mound was formed from the continent to the island, and the ruins of old Tyre afforded ready materials for the purpose. The soil and rubbish were gathered and heaped, and the mighty conqueror, who afterwards failed in raising again any of the ruins of Babylon, cast those of Tyre into the sea, and *scraped* her *dust* from off her.

3. It was declared by the Prophet, more than twenty-three centuries since, 'It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea.' (Ezek. xxvi, 5.) Should the desolation be as complete as that of Babylon who shall carry their nets there to dry them? 'The whole village of Tyre,' said Volney in his 'Ruins of Empires,' 'contains only fifty or sixty poor families, who live obscurely on the produce of their little ground, and a *trifling fishery*;' and Bruce describes Tyre as 'a rock whereon fishers dry their nets.'

Damascus.—'It shall be a ruinous heap.' (Isaiah xvii, 1.) Damascus has not been blotted out, so that no one dwells there: it is not a naked rock; it is not pools of water; it is not peopled by wolves and foxes. This is not the way in which Damascus is mentioned in the book of books. But it has been ravaged and desolated again and again. It was reduced by Alexander, by the Romans, and especially by the Saracens in the year 713, who 'miserably devastated

it:' and by Tamerlane in 1396, who 'put its inhabitants to the sword without mercy.' It has been made a 'ruinous heap;' and still exists, 'the external appearance of most of the buildings being very mean—of some exceedingly so—while many of them are very elegant within.'"

D. McK.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

ARRIVAL AT NEW YORK.—The S. S. *Idaho* arrived in safety, at New York, on Monday morning, 10th inst., at 4 o'clock.

EMIGRANTS' LUGGAGE.—Elder John Woodhouse, President of the first company of this year's emigration writes us, "the company had extra luggage to the amount of 3,590 lbs., which was passed free over the railways until we reached Omaha, but was then weighed and charged for. As we could not get an estimate from the people to cover more than half this amount, we had to weigh each person's luggage separately at Ogden, or Salt Lake City, and collect upon it, which took me two days, including traveling back and forth, of rather hard labor." It is no new thing to have the luggage weighed at Omaha, indeed, such is the rule. The Saints should either be prepared to pay at New York for all extra luggage, or else carry no overweight whatever. It is utterly useless for them to attempt carrying it without paying for it, and to do so only creates trouble and annoyance. We trust the Saints will bear this in mind and act accordingly.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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AMERICA.

LETTER FROM PREST. BRIGHAM YOUNG.

[The original having miscarried, the time occupied in procuring a copy accounts for the following letter being published so long after its date.]

Salt Lake City, U. T.,
April 15, 1876.

Prest. Albert Carrington.

Dear Brother,—Your favor of March 23rd, with its detailed, interesting, and encouraging report of the condition of the Church in Europe reached us a few days ago, its perusal giving us much pleasure. We have no doubt but that the visit of yourself and party to the continental churches will be attended with varied benefits, both to yourselves and to the work in the lands you visit.

Our annual Conference convened on the 6th inst. and continued in session until the afternoon of 9th. The weather was inclement and the Tabernacle cold,—this brought a severe cold upon me which prevented my being present at the meetings of the last two days. The principal subject dwelt upon by the Elders who addressed the Conference was the desirability of moving forward in the work of building the Temple in this city, and the various quorums of the Priesthood, Seventies, High Priests, Elders, etc., were called upon as quorums to get good, thorough men to work forthwith, in quarrying, cutting and laying rock, and in other labor that would tend to the erection of this house of the Lord. The brethren thus employed are to be sustained, and paid, by the quorums through donations from the various members without touching the Tithing, which will be used in paying the freight on rock from the quarry, also in the purchase of iron, steel, and other material, etc., as there shall be need there-

for. We hope by this means to have not less than two hundred men working this summer on the Temple block, and at the quarry, as we think each quorum of Seventies can, on an average, send two men, and the balance can certainly be supplied by the High Priests and Elders.

You will discover that we have sent you quite a number more Elders to labor in Scandinavia than you called for, and perhaps you may think more than the mission can support. Let me ask you a question: Suppose we had never sent more Elders to those countries than the mission could support, how many should we have sent when there was no mission at all there; and if we had continued that policy would there be any mission at all there to-day? We think not. These Elders however are sent with the understanding that such are to be chosen by you as may be deemed most suitable to fill the vacancies in the Conferences caused by the return home of the missionaries released this season. The others must break new ground and not depend on the Church for their support, but travel and preach as directed by the authorities in that mission, in those places and districts where the Church of God has not yet found foothold. Bishop Liljenquist of Hyrum, Cache Valley, has been called under the impression that you would probably find him a fit man to succeed Elder Flygare in the presidency of the mission in Scandinavia. We have also taken pains to send to your aid natives of all the countries comprised in that mission.

We have called Bishop Jos. Horne, of Gunnison, for the German Mission, thinking he might suit you to preside there, and three other Elders to travel therein.

The new building of Z.C.M.I. was opened for business on 1st inst., and since that day the institution has been doing a largely increased business. The building is a success in every way, has all the light and ventilation that could be desired, is so compact and convenient that we expect to be able to do the same work with 25 per cent. less employees, and has many other advantages for the rapid and efficient conduct of business. The scene within is grand and unique, as in certain portions of the house a general view can be had of all three floors with their varied classes of merchandise.

The spring in these mountains is unprecedentedly late, and the farmers and the horticulturists have as yet, scarcely been able to commence their labors on the soil.

Since Conference my health has been gradually improving, and I am now in moderately good health and in excellent spirits.

With kindest remembrance to yourself and to all the Elders, and to the Saints in the European Mission, I remain, your brother in the Gospel,

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

Salt Lake City, June 19, 1876.

Prest. A. Carrington.

Dear Brother,—The Company of Saints which left Liverpool on the 24th ult. arrived in this city on Wednesday evening, the 14th instant at 10 p.m., all in the enjoyment of excellent health and good spirits.

It is with gratitude to God our heavenly Father, when I say that we are thankful for the very prosperous journey we have had, while traveling from Babylon to Zion. The health of the company has been very good. Harmony prevailed. We were favored by the R. R. officials with first-class carriages right from New York to Salt Lake City. The officers of the U. P. especially, at Omaha, were very courteous and liberal, giving us four first class cars for our *exclusive* use, and the privilege of occupying a fifth second-class car. Our company, numbering only 140 souls, had by this generous arrangement, a most agreeable journey across the Plains.

All of our company have found a resting place. Thank the Lord we have lost none.

We had to weigh the luggage, there being some 3,500 lbs. over-weight. We found it expedient to weigh, considering it to be just for those to pay who had the surplus, and those only.

We find Zion prospering! The Lord is comforting His people!

Roses are in full bloom, but I perceive that thorns still grow on them; this admonishes us to be cautious. The crops look pretty well, and it is

expected that we shall have a good fruit season, but the spring is rather late. The winter has been long and hard. Much stock has perished through the snow storms. Individually, I am quite satisfied with the general appearance of things. I addressed the congregation in the New Tabernacle, yesterday afternoon, and felt well. Elders John Taylor and Orson Pratt were present.

President Young is expected home by the 4th of July.

"The Kingdom of God" is the watchword in Zion!

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you, and our kindred in the British Isles.

Written on behalf of the returned missionaries of the 24th May.

In the bonds of the New and Everlasting Covenant, with kind love to yourself, brother McKenzie, and all at "42."

Very truly,

EDWARD HANHAM.

P. S. Brother Taylor gave me a cordial welcome.

UTAH NEWS.

From the *Deseret News*:—

UTAH PLANTS.—This afternoon we were called upon by Mr. A. L. Siler, who resides at Ranch, about twenty-five miles above Kanab, Kane County. He left that place April 17th, and brought with him a large collection of plants indigenous to that locality, principally cacti, which he shipped to France, on an order he had received. He also went to Sanpete and obtained another collection, of four thousand specimens, principally of the "Abies Concolar," which he shipped to Backhouse and Son, of York, Yorkshire, England. He purposes making still another trip to Sanpete, on a similar errand, when he will make collections of the "Frittlaria Pudicea." In connection with Mr. John Reading, of this city, Mr. Siler purposes opening up and carrying on a regular trade in Utah plants and seeds, with various parts of the world, as there is a gradually increasing demand for them, as their nature and value become known. Mr. Reading has received an order from a New York gentleman for a number of Utah fruit trees, to be forwarded in the fall.

THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.—The students of the Univerity of Deseret spent Saturday at Spring Lake Pleasure Grounds, and had a very agreeable time.

MATHEMATICAL DISCOVERY.—Prof. Orson Pratt, Senior, on Tuesday, the 30th of May, 1876, made a highly important discovery in the department of mathematics. In the history of mathematical science it is well known that, for ages, a general solution of the cubic equation, when all the roots are real and unequal, has been sought for in vain. Centuries ago, Cardan succeeded in giving a general solution, when two of the roots are imaginary; but his formula was wholly useless and irreducible, when the equation contained three real and unequal roots. Prof. Pratt's general solution gives *the three real and unequal roots* in terms of the general co-efficients, with the same rigor and distinctness as those attending the solution of the quadratic. In the great army of the most profound mathematicians who have embellished modern science, some eminent algebraists have pretended to demonstrate the impossibility of such solution; but Bro. Pratt's success has for ever proved the incorrectness of such pretended negative demonstrations. This general solution will have a very important and useful bearing upon the future advancement of algebraical analysis.

BRIGHTON.—The people of Brighton settlement, over Jordan, are rejoicing over the completion of four and a half miles of excellent canal, which is sixteen feet wide at the bottom, and in which there will be a body of water four feet deep, the present week. This canal has been constructed principally by the

county, and has a splendid headgate, capable of regulating a body of water much larger than the capacity of the present canal. Under these propitious circumstances not a few people are looking toward Brighton for places whereon to locate, and others, non residents, who own land thereabout, are thinking of moving out there. With plenty of water, and no prospect of the Jordan overflowing upon the land in that locality, Brighton will now have a fair opportunity of showing what she can produce.

THE REYNOLDS CASE.—To-day, (6th June) the arguments in the Reynolds' polygamy case, in the Supreme Court, on appeal from the District Court, were proceeded with, Messrs. Williams, Sheeks and Rawlins for the appellant, and Mr. Carey and probably Mr. Howard for the United States. The time of the court was almost exclusively engaged in hearing the argument of Mr. Rawlins this morning. The appellant presents eight points for the decision of the Supreme bench.

DESERET UNIVERSITY.—The above institution yesterday (June 9th) concluded the fourth and last term of its academic year; and the professors and students will now take a vacation till August 27th, on which day the first term of the next academic year will commence. It is a pleasure to note that the University has increased and prospered during the past year, notwithstanding the depression in financial matters. During its first term 141 students were enrolled; the second, 167; the third, 178; and during the fourth or short term 114. The latter term, during which many have to leave to perform farming labor, an increase of thirty-three pupils is shown over the corresponding term last year; and this increase is equally proportionate on the other terms in favor of the year just closed. The representation has been universal from all parts of the Territory, and the benefits thus derived from this institution of learning will be sensibly realized in every county. Thirty-four students graduated in the Normal department during the year. There are fourteen graduates in the academic department, which is divided into nine special courses. The services of Professor Park, as President, and of Professors F. M. Bishop and Joseph Toronto will be retained during the next year, while the position of Professor Maeser, rendered vacant by his removal to Provo, will be filled by the best talent that can be obtained.

MR. TULLIDGE'S NEW BOOK.—Mr. Tullidge informs us that his new work, "Life of Brigham Young," is rapidly approaching completion, he having received 400 pages of the advance sheets. He expects it to be ready for delivery to subscribers in a few weeks.

ARIZONA SETTLEMENTS.—The latest news from the settlements on the Little Colorado is that there has been a grateful rainfall, and that the grain, in consequence, is coming up nicely.

FROM THE SOUTH.—Brother George C. Lambert has just returned from a visit to Sanpete and Sevier Counties, in the interest of the *Juvenile Instructor*, having been very successful, considering the quietness of the times. He informs us that in the latter of the two counties the United Order is progressing admirably, peace, harmony and prosperity characterizing the movements of the people in that organization. One hundred and thirty families are in the association in Richfield alone, and while he was there, brother Lambert states that he did not hear the utterance of a single murmur.

THE EMIGRANTS.—The *Nevada* company of emigrants numbering 131 persons, arrived last evening, (June 15th) in good health. The journey, which was a prosperous one, both on sea and land, occupied 21 days and a few hours, the company having left Liverpool at noon on May 24th. Quite a large proportion of the company came no further this way than Ogden, stopping in the northern part of the Territory with their friends. The most of the remainder, who came to this city last evening, have been taken to the homes of friends or relatives. The party was almost wholly composed of English and Scotch people.

PRESIDENT WELLS AND PARTY.—President Wells and Elder B. Young, Jun., and party, who have been visiting the Arizona settlements, were at Moan Coppy on May 30th, on the return. They were traveling slowly and did not expect to reach Kanab till the 24th.

THE UTAH ELECTION BILL.—The House committee on Territories have authorized Wiggington to report for passage, at the first opportunity, a bill to regulate elections in the Territories. It limits the elective franchise to male citizens of twenty-one or upwards, who are not bigamists or polygamists at the time they respectively offer to vote. The bill authorizes in the main the copy of the California State election law. All ballots are, however, to be enclosed in envelopes of a uniform size, to be furnished by the Territorial Secretary. This measure will be reported as a substitute for the bill introduced by Luttrell, which is a copy of Senator Christiancy's bill to regulate the elective franchise in Utah. It will be observed that the substitute differs from the Christiancy measure in very important particulars, and is not at all retroactive in its requirements concerning polygamists.

INDIAN WAR.—The country has at length entered upon another Indian war. When it will close, or what will be the expense in treasure and blood, no man can calculate; but no doubt many hundred valuable lives will be lost, and millions of money be spent while it lasts. Gen. Crook's expedition left Fort Fetterman on Monday last; the cavalry will be under the command of Captain Royall, and the infantry be commanded by Captain Chambers. The cavalry companies are composed of an average of fifty-five men, and the infantry of fifty men each. There are sixty horses to each cavalry company. A pack train of 320 mules is connected with the expedition, each mule carrying 200 pounds. Also 100 mule-team wagons, each carrying 3,500 pounds. There are 100 teamsters, and ten wagon-masters; also seventy-five packers and five pack-masters. The expedition consists in all of about 1,200 men, including infantry, cavalry, teamsters and packers. To resist this small force it is said that the Sioux, Cheyenne, and other hostile tribes have already 3,500 warriors in readiness, less than one-half of the force which they are able to muster. These Indians are well mounted and armed with the choicest rifles, and have plenty of ammunition. The rendezvous is at Blue Stone, a tributary of the Yellowstone. The Indian army is under the command of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, both active warriors and eager to distinguish themselves in a contest with General Crook, the renowned Indian fighter.—*Ogden Junction, June* 3.

GONE TO THE WAR.—This morning (June 24th) four companies of the 14th infantry left Camp Douglas, Salt Lake City, *en route* for the Black Hills, in accordance with orders received, General Crook having desired reinforcements to be forwarded to him. The companies, which are commanded by Major Burke, are as follows:—B, Captain Kennington; C, Major Burke; F, Captain Tobey; and I, Lieutenant Calhoun. They take a couple of field pieces with them.—*Deseret News.*

WASHINGTON, July 6.—A scout, the bearer of despatches, has arrived at Fort Ellis. He reports that two detachments of troops, under General Custer and Major Reno, attacked a body of 2,500 Indians on the 25th ult., in a defile in Little Horn. General Custer's command was overwhelmed and annihilated, he himself being killed, with sixteen of his officers, and three hundred privates. Major Reno retreated with difficulty, until he was joined by the reserves.—*Daily Post.*

—— Domestic cotton goods are said to be cheaper in all the leading markets of the United States than ever known before. Turkish, Egyptian and Russian merchants, heretofore purchasing in England, are now buying in New York, and liberal shipments are being made to other Asiatic markets.